

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ADDIS 02911 101143Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 SY-05 OPR-02 A-01 SCS-03 SCA-01

/078 W

-----110241Z 112925 /15

R 100944Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3911

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 2911

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ET, SOPN

SUBJ: WESTERN PRESS IN ETHIOPIA

REF: A. ADDIS ABABA 2668 (NOTAL), B. ADDIS ABABA 2522 (NOTAL),

C. ADDIS ABABA 2754

1. SINCE APRIL 25 EXPULSION OF RESIDENT WESTERN PRESS
CORRESPONDENTS (WASHPOST, REUTERS, AND AFP), OTHER WESTERN
JOURNALISTS INCLUDING NYTIMES, BALTIMORE SUN, TIME MAG., AP, UPI,
AND LONDON DAILY EXPRESS, HAVE ENJOYED SURPRISINGLY FREE ACCESS
TO ETHIOPIA. HOWEVER, MAY 6 MININFO AND NATIONAL GUIDANCE ISSUED
CONDEMNATION OF "SOME SECTIONS OF WESTERN MASS MEDIAZ FOR "DIS-
TORTING AND EXAGGERATING OUT OF ALL PROPORTION EVENTS TAKING
PLACE IN ETHIOPIA". PUBLIC SECURITY ADMINISTRATION EXPELLED
LONDON DAILY EXPRESS CORRESPONDENT, PETER MASON, SAME DAY FOR
"DESPATCHING FALSE NEWS DETRIMENTAL TO SECURITY OF
COUNTRY". CONDEMNATION AND EXPULSION RELATED TO
WESTERN MEDIA REPORTS OF APRIL 29-30 KILLINGS OF
ANTI-GOVT, STUDENT-AGE DEMONSTRATORS (REFTEL C).

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NO ACTION TAKEN AGAINST MICHAEL PARKS OF BALTIMORE
SUN AND NAIROBI-BASED AP AND UPI CORRESPONDENTS,
WHO FEARED EXPULSION FOR BREAKING SAME STORY, AND
WHO LEFT ADDIS SAME DAY MASON EXPELLED.

2. RECENT UNFAVORABLE COVERAGE BY WESTERN MEDIA AND
STRONG EPMG REACTION TO IT RAISE DISTINCT POSSIBILITY

THAT EPMG MAY CONSIDER BARRING ENTRY TO ALL WESTERN MEDIA IN FUTURE. AS IN PAST, HOWEVER, THERE PROBABLY INTERNAL DISAGREEMENT AMONG MININFO, POLITBURO AND PMAC ABOUT POLICY TOWARD WESTERN MEDIA. EMBASSY ADDIS WOULD APPRECIATE ADDRESSEES ADVISING WESTERN CORRESPONDENTS OF CURRENT SITUATION HERE AND TO CAUTION THEM ABOUT DANGERS INHERENT IN FILING UNFAVORABLE STORIES WHILE STILL IN COUNTRY. ONLY LEE GRIGGS OF TIME PRESENTLY IN ETHIOPIA, BUT WE UNDERSTAND NAIROBI-BASED NYTIMES CORRESPONDENT JOHN DARNTON MAY BE PLANNING VISIT ADDIS THIS WEEK. MALIN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, EXPULSION, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ADDIS02911
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Drafter: n/a
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Errors: N/A
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From: ADDIS ABABA
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ISecure: 1
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
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Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2589940
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WESTERN PRESS IN ETHIOPIA
TAGS: SOPN, ET
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/5360c397-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
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